



The Ground Plane

South Bay
Amateur
Radio
Association
ARRL Member Club
Since 1974



Volume 4 Edition 6

June, 2003

MESSAGE FROM SBARA BOARD

SBARA FIELD DAY 2003 - JUNE 28TH & 29TH - CENTRAL PARK

Well it is the month for Field Day. It is a summer event but with the weather so far this month it may feel like a winter event! Plans are well on the way for all the activities that take place on Field Day weekend. The food committee under the direction of Harry Lau has planned for a fun potluck dinner on Saturday at 5:00PM. Harry's team will be barbequing sausages, hot dogs and hamburgers. SBARA will provide the all the fixings for the barbeque; you just need to bring yourself and a salad or desert side dish to share with the group. Be sure and attend the potluck to make it a great success. Harry's team has really been working hard.

We will have stations on 80 through 10 meters. We are even planning to have two stations at a time on the 40 and 20 meters bands. OPERATORS WANTED! The setup this year will be on Friday, June 27th. The rules allow setup within the 24-hour period prior to the starting of Field Day. If you are available on Friday at 11:00AM and through the afternoon, come help out with the antenna, tents and equipment setup. The park has been reserved for sleeping over on Friday night as well as Saturday night. If you like camping take advantage of the opportunity since the park does not normally allow overnight camping.

And Oh yes, pray for the bands to be open! 73 de WT6K Al Rendon

JUNE 2003 MEETING PROGRAM

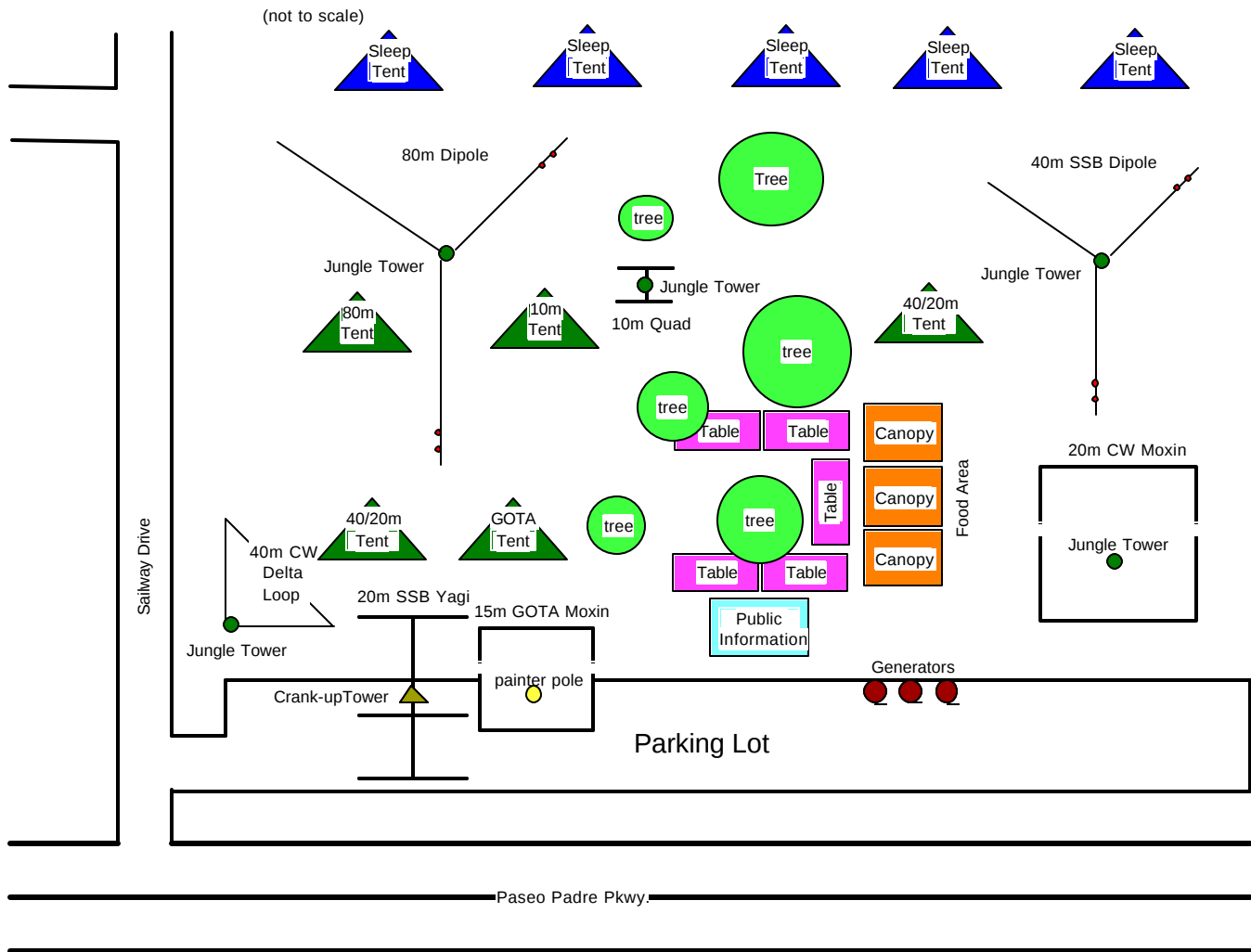


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The June meeting will focus on the details of this year's Field Day events. Field Day is June 28th and 29th with the setup taking place on Friday June 27th after 11:00AM. Come to the meeting on Wednesday June 18th starting at 7:30PM Fremont Community Center, on Paseo Padre Pkwy, to hear about what is planned and get involved with this year's big event.

SBARA FIELD DAY LAYOUT



SBARA Meeting Minutes—May , 2003

The meeting came to order and Al Rendon WT6K asked all members to introduce themselves.

Al inquired about activity on the newly re-activated SBARA 10 Meter Net.

Dennis Franklin K6DF (ARRL Section Manager) was persuaded deliver a report on the DX convention recently held in Visalia. Mike Studer AB6CV followed with comments on a talk delivered at the convention centered on receiver characteristics.

Jim Woods KE6IVA (SBARA Treasurer) reported that after Newsletter & refreshment costs and some batteries that the club purchased for Field Day we had \$815.60 in checking. Dennis Franklin K6DF advised that the ARRL continuing Education pro-

gram offers a Level 1 emergency communications course via www/email on a continuing basis and urges all who have not taken & completed this course to do so. The cost is \$60.00 and information is available on the ARRL web site. After sign up you receive a logon & password and begin working through course sections. Dennis rated it as an easy class that will teach you things you did not know.

Kristen K6WX talked briefly about her recent involvement with the U.S.S. Hornet radio club.

Jim Woods KE6IVA advised that he had renewed the clubs ARRL affiliated club status. The ARRL will be handling renewal of our club KU6S license. Al Rendon WT6K offered a listing of Field day prepara-

tions, duties and responsibilities that need volunteer effort & commitment to get done.

He also listed requirements & activities that can be performed to gain points for our Field Day effort and increase our score. Volunteers are needed to get these things done. Al Rendon WT6K briefly discussed his plan for a portable 3 element 20 Meter

Yagi beam using 6 - 20' telescopic fiberglass fishing poles to support wire elements.

Sam Severs WS6S SBARA Secretary

Show and Tell

Mike Studer AB6CV demonstrated a portable power source consisting of a cabinet mounted on an old hand truck. The cabinet contained a 1 KW inverter (2 KW surge) that is currently available at Costco Warehouse for \$69.00. A 12V UPS battery (1 of many SBARA just purchased) was mounted at the bottom. This will provide Mike both AC & DC power on Field Day.

Sam Severs WS6S delivered a talk & demonstration of a "Black Widow" style

Moxon Rectangle beam intended for use by the GOTA station on Field Day collaboration between WT6K & WS6S). The antenna was featured in the May 2003 issue of QST (picture on the cover) and is designed for 15 Meters. It featured telescopic fishing poles arranged to support the Moxon style driven and reflector elements and will mount to a 23" telescopic paint pole that can be guyed in a ground mount or truck mount configuration. For the evening program Mike Studer AB6CV presented a Linux based software interface

he created for operation with the Elecraft K2 HF radio using a lap top computer. Mike devised a number of memory & CW features offering support for automatic transmission of contest contact numbers, zones & sections. He has also implemented a DX cluster support system that allows the radio to tuned to the announced

DX station at the touch of a button. Mikes software can be downloaded from qsl.net/AB6CV and runs under Red hat 9.0.

Sam Severs WS6S SBARA Secretary

PACIFICON 2003 will be held at the Marriott Hotel in San Ramon California.

PACIFICON is the ARRL's Pacific Division convention. This year it will be held from October 17th through the 19th. Again, we will be bringing in great speakers, offering ham radio classes and testing to the public and sponsoring technology forums throughout the entire weekend. For additional information visit—
<http://www.pacificon.org>



KID'S DAY II IS JUNE 21!

The second Kid's Day of 2003 will be June 21, from 1800-2400 UTC. There's no limit on operating time. The twice-annual event, held in January and June, offers a chance for amateurs to invest in the future of Amateur Radio by participating in a simple, but rewarding, on-the-air event. Now in its ninth year, each running of Kid's Day typically attracts more than 1000 participants.

Kid's Day is intended as an opportunity to share Amateur Radio with young people--licensed or not--in the hope that they'll enjoy the experience and possibly pursue their own license in the future.

Activity for Kid's Day <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html>> takes place on 20, 15 and 10 meters and can include local 2-meter repeaters. It's an opportunity to introduce your own youngsters, neighborhood kids and nieces and nephews to participate to the magic of ham radio and perhaps spark a lifelong love for the hobby.

Kid's Day is not a contest, and patience is a must. The role of the licensee and control operator is to help with the basics, keep an eye on the technical aspects of the operation, observe third-party traffic agreements and be sure to ID at the proper intervals. In this event, it's quality of the contacts that counts, not quantity.

The suggested exchange for Kid's Day is first name, age, location and favorite color. It's okay to work the same station again if the operator has changed. Call "CQ Kid's Day." Suggested frequencies are 14,270 to 14,300, 21,380 to 21,400 and 28,350 to 28,400 kHz, and 2-meter repeater frequencies with permission from your area repeater sponsor.

All participants are eligible to receive a colorful certificate. Visit the ARRL Kid's Day Survey page <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kids-day-survey.html> to complete a short survey and post your comments. You will then have access to download the certificate page or send a 9x12 SASE to Boring Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1357, Boring, OR 97009.

Originated by the Boring Amateur Radio Club <<http://jzap.com/k7rat/>>, the event now is sponsored and administered by the ARRL with the cooperation and assistance of the BARC.

Hello All CERT Comm'ers:

- 1) I invite all CERT Comm members to consider getting qualified to teach communications (and other) modules of the main CERT program. Contact Chuck Guaraglia at guaragliac@aol.com.
- 2) The C.A.R.D. presentation on ICS/SEMS will be on Thursday, June 26 from 6:30 – 8:30 in the Niles Room at Fire Admin on Liberty street. I got a preview of this at the last BayNet meeting. This promises to be a VERY good session.
- 3) From Jan Giovanni: The 4th of July Parade also—in the Warm Springs District this year (starts at 10:00 a.m. on Mayten and heads north on WS Blvd to Hackamore). We are hoping that CERT Comm will be able to set up at the Hackamore Fire Station, and I am trying to get you a table at Mayten Way also (both on WS Blvd). Operators could walk back and forth if they want, once the police close the south bound lanes (after 9:30 a.m.)—and communicate with Hackamore and/or Mayten??? The parade coordinator and volunteers will have other radios (not Ham), but it would be nice to have Ham backup. I could have both, and will probably be behind the stage at WS School. If CERT Comm is able to do this, let me know what frequency you will be on. Our next mtg is Thursday, 6/12, at 7 p.m. at LaQuinta Inn (opposite NUMMI, off 880). Thank you so much. Jan
- 4) I encourage the group to take the lead to integrate the 4 comm course modules as a “continuing education series” for CERT proper.
- 5) I encourage the group to take the (painstaking) lead in developing a viable “neighborhood-centric” plan for communications support to CERT emergency response plans. You'll find that CERT will look very closely at what CERT Comm has developed to model some of their organization around what works.
- 6) It's been fun and rewarding to be part of such a dynamic organization as CERT Comm over the last 4 years. I will miss this energy. I wish you all well, and hope you can continue directing that energy towards new and exciting areas.

Best regards, **Rudi Wiedemann** Tel 510-792-2252

NEW 60-METER BAND TO BECOME AVAILABLE JULY 3rd!

The new five-channel 60-meter amateur allocation becomes available to US Amateur Radio operators at midnight (12:00 AM) local time on July 3. The local time designation means that amateurs in the US territory of Guam likely will be the first to get a crack at the new band.

The new band will be a secondary allocation--federal government users are primary--and the first on which the only permitted mode will be upper-sideband (USB) phone (emission type 2K8J3E). The FCC last month announced it would grant hams access to five discrete 2.8-kHz-wide channels instead of the 150 kHz-wide band ARRL had requested and the FCC initially proposed. The League remains optimistic, however, that Amateur Radio eventually may be able to enjoy a band segment with multiple mode privileges at 60 meters. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, has said that in the meantime hams will have to be on their best behavior when taking advantage of the limited channelized allocation, open to General and higher class licensees.

The FCC has granted amateurs center-channel frequencies of 5332, 5348, 5368, 5373 and 5405 kHz--the last channel common to the amateur experimental operation under way in the United Kingdom <http://www.rsgb-hfc.org.uk/5mhz.htm>. To be "on channel," users of 60 meters should set their transmitted carrier frequency 1.5 kHz lower than the channel-center frequency. In terms of day-to-day operation, the new band is expected to resemble the sort of channel sharing typical on local repeaters.

ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, says hams need to be very careful if they're considering modifying their current transceiver or transmitter for 5 MHz. The ARRL advises that members check with the appropriate equipment manufacturers regarding specific modification information. Some modifications not only may void the warranty but could affect or alter a transmitter's operation in unpredictable ways.

"Hams need to be sure that any modifications put them right on the desired channel," Hare said. "Most hams are used to just having to think about band edges, so on other bands, if a mod were a bit 'off,' all operators would need to ensure is that they are not transmitting outside the band."

Hare recommended that on 5 MHz amateurs remain within "a few tens of Hertz" of suppressed-carrier accuracy. He also pointed out that hams have a mandate not to have any of their signal occupy spectrum outside the assigned 2.8

Membership Report

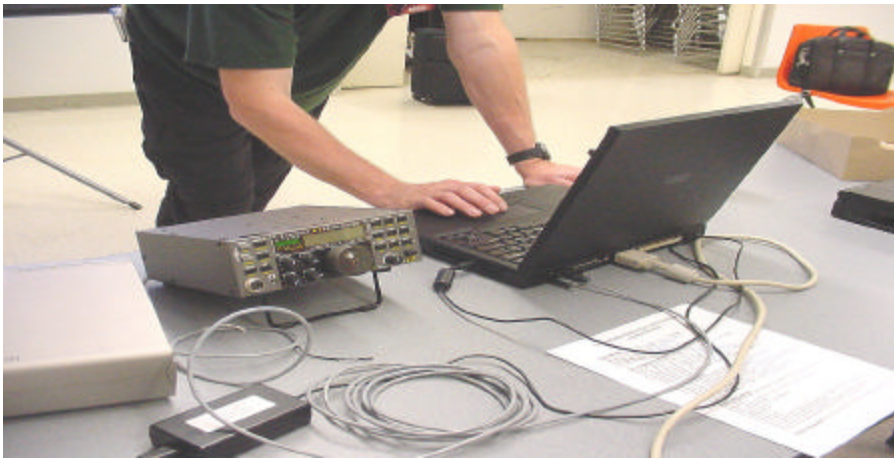
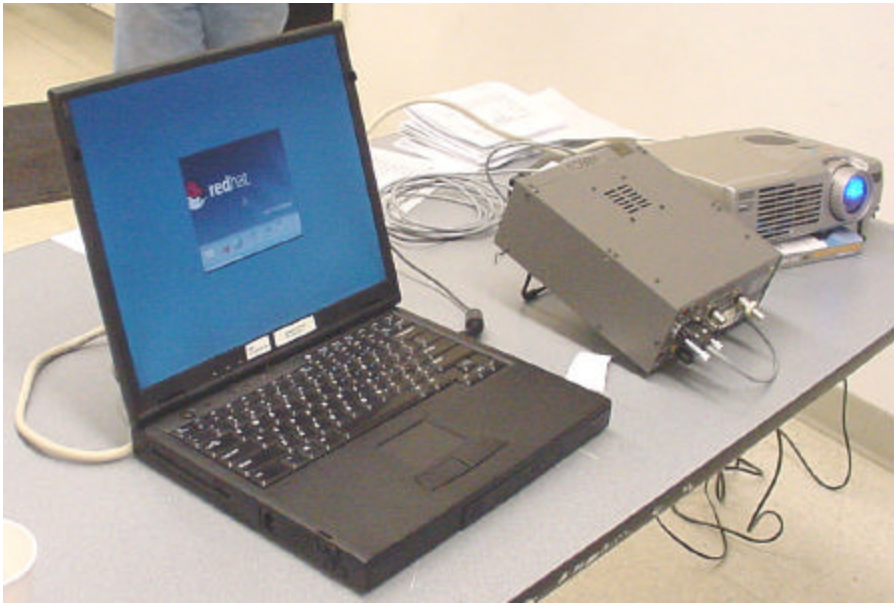
We now have a total membership of 77. These include New License, Honorary, Senior, Family, Regular and Courtesy.

We welcome the two newest members, which are:

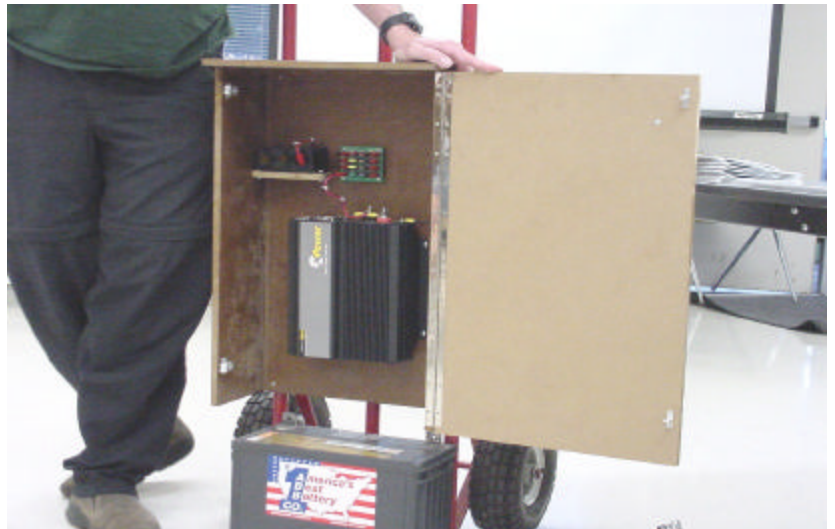
K6WX Kristen McIntyre, from Fremont, and The Harry Lua Family: KF6QAK Harry, KF6UQS Adam, KF6UQR Nathan, and newest Lau member KG6LBI Nelson:

Congratulations to the new licensee Nelson.

A membership list is available in this Newsletter or ask Al Rendon or Jim Wood for one.



Mike's Battery Ready to Travel



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